GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HOME AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:398
ANSWERED ON:01.12.2015
Ceasefire Violation
Azad Shri Kirti (JHA);Kharge Shri Mallikarjun ;Kumar Shri P.;Lekhi Smt. Meenakashi;Nagar Shri Rodmal

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the details of cross border firings and ceasefire violations by Pakistan during each of the last three years and the current year, border-wise;

(b) the total number of civilians and security personnel injured/killed, damage to property and exodus of people from the affected regions during the said period and the corrective steps taken by the Government in this regard;

(c) whether the Government has signed any agreement with Pakistan to stop ceasefire violations at the borders of the country and if so, the details thereof along with the incidents of firing/ceasefire violations that have been occurred after signing of the said agreements;

(d) whether the security forces are equipped with state-of-the-art weapons to counter heavy shelling at the borders and if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the measures being taken by the Government to check cross border firings and infiltration at the borders in the country and provide security to the people residing in the border areas?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS
(SHRI KIRAN RIJIJU)

(a): The details of cross border firings and ceasefire violations by Pakistan

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during last three years and the current year is as under:-

Year Number of cross border firings and ceasefire violations
International Border(IB) under operational control of BSF Along the Line of Control(LoC) and IB under operational control of Army
2012 21 93
2013 148 199
2014 430 153
2015 249 (upto 31.10.2015) 152 (upto 15.11.2015)

(a) : The number of civilians and security personnel injured/killed, property damaged (houses) and persons temporarily affected, during the last three years and the current year due to unprovoked firing along the IB and LoC in J&K, are as under:-
Year Civilians BSF personnel at IB & LoC Damage to property (Houses) No. of persons temporarily affected
Killed Injured Killed Injured
2012 01 02 03 03 -- --
2013 -- 19 02 18 03 --
2014 12 86 02 17 140 2,08,000
2015 15(upto 20.11.15) 71(upto 20.11.15) 04(upto 31.10.15) 08(upto 31.10.15) 50(upto 26.07.15) 7,110(upto 26.07.15)

Ex-gratia relief to the affected families is paid by the State Government. The affected families are temporarily shifted to safer places and provided with accommodation with basic amenities along with medical aid by the State Government.
(c): All violations of ceasefire are taken up with Pakistan authorities at the appropriate level through the established mechanisms of hotlines, flag meetings as well as weekly talks between the Director General of Military Operations.

In addition, Government has repeatedly emphasised, including at the highest level, the need for Pakistan to uphold the sanctity of the Line of Control and abide by the ceasefire commitment of 2003 along the International Border and Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.

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DG level talks held between DG BSF and DG Pakistan Rangers at BSF HQ, New Delhi from 09 to 12 Sept 2015 in which issue of ceasefire violation was raised strongly and Pak Rangers agreed to maintain peace on this border. However, after the talks 27 Nos of ceasefire violations have taken place.

(d): The Indian Army has deployed troops suitably supplemented by appropriate surveillance resources in J&K to maintain the sanctity of the Line of Control (LC). It is also being ensured that all resources (including human) of Indian Army deployed in forward positions along the LC are tactically balanced and have requisite strength, armament and equipment. BSF is equipped with 14.5/20 mm Anti Material Rifles, 30 mm Automatic Grenade Launchers, 84 mm Carl Gustav Rocket Launches, 51 mm and 81 mm Mortars.

(e): The following measures have been taken by the Government to check ceasefire violations at the borders and ensure the safety of the civilians at such areas:
i) Proper defence preparedness (including strengthening of Nakas, field fortifications, high mast lights etc.) is ensured on the International Border.
ii) Immediate and effective retaliation by BSF Personnel is carried out during instances of unprovoked fire and ceasefire violations.
iii) Mechanism has been instituted at Border Out Posts (BOPs) and border areas to expeditiously inform the villagers on occurrence of cross-border firing.
iv) BSF regularly interacts with border population situated close to border and educates them not to move in vicinity of areas prone to unprovoked fire without prior information / permission of BSF.
v) Diplomatically, India has repeatedly emphasised, including at the highest level, the need for Pakistan to uphold the sanctity of the Line of Control (LC) and abide by the ceasefire commitment of 2003 along the International Border and LC.
vi) The affected families are temporarily shifted to safer places and accommodated by the administration at various government buildings and are provided all basic amenities like health care, drinking water, power, temporary toilet, sanitation and security.
vii) Bullet Proof bunkers and ambulances are kept in readiness at convenient locations for evacuation of persons in case of emergency.

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To check infiltration, the Government of India in tandem with the State Government, have adopted a multi-pronged approach to contain cross border infiltration, which, inter-alia, includes strengthening of border management and multi-tiered deployment along the International Border / Line of Control, monitoring of infiltration, routes, construction of border fencing including plugging the gaps through technological solutions, weapons and equipments for Security Forces, improved intelligence and operational coordination; and pro-active action against terrorists within the State.
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